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In 1952, in rreths where the work was well organized by people's councils, front organizations, and peasants, losses were greatly reduced. At the Ylli Kuq State Farm at Kamze, the workers used a new method of reaping and binding wheat sheaves, which saved time and manpower and prevented waste. On the other hand, where harvesting was not well organized, as at the Maliq State Farm, losses were great. In the village of Dvoran, Korce Rreth, for example, 6 kilograms were lost per dynym /one dynym equals  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre/ reaped. If such a loss occurred in all of Korce Rreth, there would be a deficit of 750,000 kilograms of grain.

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the party ask all collectives to organize working squads and to enlist the aid of more women and pioneers in the harvesting.

The MTS must also be instructed not to break the awns or mix varieties selected for seed with those that are not selected for seed. Moreover, the MTS must be held to their contracts.(2)

#### Child Welfare in Harvesting Season

The Albanian Workers' Party takes care of the children of working mothers during work in the fields through nursery homes near the agricultural collectives. The mothers know that their children are in good hands, so they can proceed to the fields to fulfill their quotas. Once every 3 hours, the mothers return from the fields to nurse their children. In addition, the children receive other food, such as cow's milk with sugar or sweets.

This system permits many women to work in the fields. In Maminas, Durres Rreth, more than 50 percent of the work of the agricultural collective is done by women.(3)

#### Bureaucracy of Executive Committees Criticized

Analysis of the work of economic authorities and people's councils shows that a number of executive committees lack healthy control. This is evidenced by lapses of discipline, irresponsibility in work, and bureaucracy. Such defects are obstacles to the fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan.

For example, the Tirana Executive Committee is content to pass resolutions, without paying much attention to their execution. Of 33 suggestions laid before this committee, only nine were examined, and some of the nine were not carried out. The committee neglects its duty and substitutes bureaucracy for control. One consequence of this conduct is that the rreth is behind in spring planting and mobilization of manpower.

The executive committee of Mirdite, Rreshen Rreth, is another example of a committee which passed resolutions in 1952 but did not see to their execution. The Kukes Rreth Executive Committee also did not start seeing to the fulfillment of the first quarterly plan for 1953 until 30 March, when it was much too late to begin.

No measures can be effective without systematic control. To achieve such control, criticism and self-criticism on a large scale are essential.

The leaders of local organizations and collectives should not be content with forming brigades and supplying a few instructors. They must go around the country and see that the resolutions of executive committees are carried out. At present the fullest control is required in the harvesting, threshing, and collection campaign.(4)

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Kukes Executive Committee Renders Accounts

The Kukes Rreth Executive Committee appreciates the necessity of keeping in touch with its electors by rendering annual accounts of its activities. In February 1953, it held a meeting to discuss this problem with its members and prepare them for this work. Of its 44 members, 42 rendered accounts to their constituents. In the meetings organized for this purpose, many complaints were made. The committee has taken these under advisement.

For example, the inhabitants of Dukagji criticized the negligence of the agricultural section of the committee, which had not sent an expert to show the peasants how to transfer bees from old to new hives. Peasants in Buz-math criticized the section for not taking steps in time to prevent some of the cattle from dying. Many peasants of different villages complained that their suggestions had not been brought before the committee.

The executive committee directorate has studied these complaints and has ordered its agricultural section, as well as those for health and trade, to reorganize and keep in touch with the people.(5)

Gorice People's Council Lax

The peasants of Gorice, Gjinokaster Rreth, promised to build a road and bridge to connect the village with the rreth motor road. They also promised to plant 6 dynyms with pear, fig, apple, and almond trees. The mountain roads were to be graded to make pasturage more accessible to cattle. But the peasants did not know enough to carry out these plans, and the people's council was not sufficiently interested to give them the necessary information.

The council does not meet regularly. In fact, it acts as if membership were merely honorary. Hence, the people's problems remain unsolved. No efficient action to fulfill these plans, or the Five-Year Plan can be expected until these shortcomings are remedied.(1)

Qeparo People's Council Neglects Duties

The people's council in the town of Qeparo, Himare Lokalitet, Vlore Rreth, neglects its duties. From January to May 1953, it held no meetings. Its shortcomings are hindering fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan. For example, through its negligence, citrus-fruit saplings were not supplied at the proper time for planting. Consequently, the peasants suffered great losses. Again, the Qeparo peasants planned to plant 50 dynyms in tobacco, but up to the end of May, only 5 dynyms were planted. The head of the council even said that tobacco would not grow in Qeparo.

Other shortcomings were also noted, but if a people's council does not meet for 5 months, little can be expected of it.

Moreover, the Himare Executive Committee is not interested in helping the people's council. The people, under these circumstances, must make themselves heard.(6)

Durres Rreth Permanent Commission Called Inefficient

The permanent agriculture and forestry commission of Durres Rreth pays little attention to its duties. It is a commission in name only. It has not met once since its election in 1952. Its members do not know each other or the problems they were elected to solve.

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On 8 April, the rreth people's council met to discuss the spring planting. Although one of the main functions of the commission is to orient the people's council, the commission had not made a detailed report. Hence, the council was unable to decide on any concrete measures.

The commission also neglected its other chief duty: to aid the villages in its own electorate by seeing that they receive credits, seeds, and other necessities in good time.

The people's council sharply rebuked the commission for its inactivity, but from the time of the spring meeting to the last meeting, which was called to discuss the harvesting, threshing, and collection of crops, the situation has not changed. The commission's attitude is intolerable. It must shake off its lethargy and do its duty.(7)

#### Berat Front Organization Aids Agricultural Program

The Berat Democratic Front Council met on 3 June to discuss the 1953 harvesting, threshing, and collecting campaign. Jani Pashke, head of the rreth front, reported that the 1952 plan had been fulfilled 8 days ahead of schedule. Many fronts, including those of Perondi, Krekeze, Mimias, Roshnik, and Sqepur paid their debts to the state ahead of schedule.

Members of the front criticized various defects in their organization and promised to speed up the planting of stubble fields, collection of surplus, procurement and selection of seeds, and political work for class warfare.(8)

#### Erseke Democratic Front Praised

The Erseke Rreth Democratic Front did excellent political work in mobilizing the peasants for spring sowing. By personal example, posters, and lectures, it spread knowledge of checkrow planting and other advanced measures. Front leaders in the villages of Luaras, Vodice, and Blysh did outstanding work in this field.

The front was also successful in forming collectives and organizing delegations where there were prospects of forming collectives.

The reason for this excellent work is that the front holds regular meetings, gives courses in various centers, and combines three or four villages under the supervision of the rreth council. However, the council itself has defects. It does not distribute leaflets praising chiefs and members of the front who have set good examples in the spring sowing competition. Moreover, it does not put up work graphs and tables in the villages. These shortcomings harm the spirit of competition. Members of the front must be more vigilant in class warfare, in unmasking, and in combating kulaks. They must also pay particular attention to avoiding waste in reaping grain.(9)

#### Polene Democratic Front Helps Spring Planting

The leaders of the front in Polene village, Korce Rreth carried on excellent political work among members in mobilizing them to fulfill the Five-Year Plan. They also mobilized the peasants to complete the planned planting, especially of sugar beets. Because of this splendid organization, the first hoeing of corn and beets was quickly finished. The front was also successful in cooperating with other organizations such as women's organizations and people's councils.

During the harvesting season, the front organized women and young people into brigades to help in agricultural work and spread the party slogan, "The First Threshing for the State."(3)

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Peshkopi Rreth Democratic Front Criticized

The newly elected directorate of the Peshkopi Rreth Democratic Front does not do its duty. It is a directorate in name only. It does not organize its work nor keep in touch with the masses to mobilize them for plan fulfillment. It does not propagandize advanced agricultural methods, work to eliminate illiteracy nor seek to draw the poor and middle peasantry into class warfare.

It is time to put an end to these shortcomings.(10)

Shkoder Democratic Front Takes Duties Seriously

The recently elected front in Shkoder Rreth takes its duties seriously. Each member is responsible for one lokalitet and for one section concerning either politics, organization, culture, agriculture, or health.

The directorate publishes a political bulletin every 10 days, giving instructions in advanced methods of growing tobacco and other crops. The bulletin unmasks imperialists such as Pope Pius and other warmongers. These bulletins, together with leaflets praising good workers, are widely distributed in the villages.

In May, the directorate organized a meeting of peasants and urged all women of the district to set a good example in working. As a result of the front's regular meetings, the spring planting was extremely successful. Many collectives were organized for sowing corn, cotton, and other crops. For example, in Buzi-Uji village, 32 squads with ox teams aided 15 families who were unable to work. Squads from other villages aided two families each.

The front is also doing outstanding work in hygiene and education.(11)

Improvement in Vlore Democratic Front

Front elections were held on 10 February 1953 in the village of Becisht, Vlore Rreth. Under the guidance of the front, the people elected the best candidates. The people asked the new members not to follow the precedents set by their predecessors but to do good work and take full responsibility.

The new officials held regular meetings to draw up plans. The March plan provided for mobilization of manpower to clear 6 hectares of woodland, weekly political meetings, and payment of dues. Political talks were given by members every week. Every Sunday, the people, led by members of the front, went out to clear the woods, finishing the task in 3 weeks. During April, the members carried out their political work among the masses for the spring planting. On 20 April, the peasants began to plant cotton. They finished the job on 20 May.

The village front keeps in close touch with the rreth front, sending word of the village needs three times a month. It also keeps the peasants oriented and sets them a good example.(1)

II. IRRIGATION. MECHANIZATIONNew Irrigating Canal Opened

Some 250 irrigating canals have been opened since the liberation of Albania. So far, in 1953, a total of 54 canals have been opened. More than 57,700 hectares will be irrigated in 1953. With the opening of the new canals to be built under the Five-Year Plan, it will be possible to irrigate 100,000 hectares.

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The canals finished thus far have supplied a wide strip of cotton land in Myzeqe and a large sugar-beet area in Korce and have made it possible to increase the area of the rice fields in Sarande and many other rreths.(12)

#### Mechanization of Reaping and Threshing

In 1953, the MTS will do 19 percent more reaping and 20 percent more threshing than in 1952. Many combines will be available.

To make good use of combines, their itineraries must be carefully planned. In Durres, however, the MTS did not know the itinerary or the areas they were to work until 2 days beforehand. As a result, their final preparations were hurried. In Shkoder, the itinerary was known in time to prepare for successful work. In Vlore, competition among the MTS workers resulted in a 50-percent increase in the daily norm. Good use was also made of the MTS in Korce and Kruje. But in Delvine, Lushnje, and Elbasan, many shortcomings developed. Machines often stood in the fields all day without being put to work.(13)

#### More Combines Available in Various Rreths

The MTS in Milot, Lushnje, and Fier will reap 15 percent and thresh 13 percent more grain in 1953 than in 1952. Combines now available will reap and thresh 50 percent of all grain crops.(14)

### III. HARVEST PROGRESS

#### Two Crops a Year in Some Rreths

Many collectives of progressive peasants in Elbasan, Lushnje, Sarande, and Berat rreths obtain two crops a year by planting corn after harvesting wheat. This method has been employed on a large scale in planting corn and tobacco in stubble fields after the grain harvest.(7)

#### Progress of Sugar-Beet, Corn, Cotton, Tobacco Crops in Certain Rreths

Korce Rreth collectives have finished the first and second hoeing of their sugar-beet fields and are completing the third.

Collectives in Lushnje, Fier, Vlore, Berat, Durres, and Shkoder have been hoeing their cotton, corn, and tobacco fields.

All collectives are using the checkrow method of planting potatoes and corn and are pruning their cotton. They also employ artificial pollination for corn and other crops.(2)

#### Status of Harvest in Various Rreths

Reaping is finished on 70 percent of the wheat fields in Lesh Rreth, 42 percent of the barley and oat fields in Shkoder, 33 percent [not specified] in Kruje, and 25 percent [not specified] in Sarande. Soviet combines have been widely used.

State-farm yields have been high. For example, Maliq Muci Farm, Durres Rreth, obtained 2,000 kilograms of grain per hectare on 50 hectares; 8 Nendori State Farm in Sukth, Durres Rreth, obtained 3,200 kilograms per hectare on a like area.

Many wagonloads of new wheat have been delivered to the collection centers.(3)

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Berat Rreth

Wheat Yield Good in Berat Rreth

The agricultural collectives and peasants organized to finish the reaping without waste. The MTS threshers will work at collectives in Perhondi, Morave, Ciflik, and Tapi, as well as on farms in Sqepur, Kutalli, and other villages.

The collectives and best workers are obtaining 2,000 kilograms of wheat per hectare.

On 21 June, three wagon trains loaded with wheat left the Ciflik, Tapi, and Perhondi collectives for the Ure Vajgurore collection center. Within a few days, 16,400 kilograms of wheat will be delivered. (6)

Berat Harvesting and Threshing Done by MTS

The MTS of Ure Vajgurore has put its machinery in better order for the 1953 harvest than it did in 1952. Each brigade has a planned itinerary.

MTS threshers will thresh the wheat of six collectives and 15 villages in Berat Rreth. The MTS will harvest hundreds of dynyms and thresh about 12,000 kilograms more wheat than in 1952.

On 10 June, the first MTS began work for the Tetori i Kuq collective and harvested  $4\frac{1}{2}$  dynyms. (6)

Durrës Rreth

Wheat, Corn, and Egg Plan Fulfilled

Peasants of Shenavlash village have promised to pay 90 percent of the corn plan in wheat and to overfulfill their trade agreements with consumer collectives 50 percent. They will finish the wheat plan on 15 July, the corn plan on 30 July, the threshing plan on 30 July, and the egg quota on 10 July. (3)

Harvest Successful; Collection Agents Criticized

By 20 June, the Kryevith Lokalitet had reaped 54 percent of the area sown in wheat. Maminas Lokalitet had reaped 23 percent and other lokalitets, 22 percent. (7)

Corn Sowing Finished

Durrës Rreth has finished sowing corn on 800 hectares by the checkrow method. Up to 11 June, it surpassed the planting plan 4 percent. (12)

Collections Begin in Durrës Rreth

The rreth people's council met recently to discuss the harvesting, threshing, and collecting program.

The secretary of the executive committee reported that harvesting and threshing was completed 10 days ahead of schedule. Collections had already begun at 8 Nendori State Farm at Sukth, Maliq Muco State Farm at Xhafzotaj, Maminas, Agricultural Collective, and individual holdings in Rrashbulle, Sukth, and Xhafzotaj. Many outstanding peasants obtained 2,400-2,500 kilograms of wheat per hectare.

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However, the report criticized the collection agents for inefficiency and slowness in delivery to collection centers.(8)

Wheat Harvest Successful

Up to 8 June, several lokalitets harvested 650 dynyms of early wheat. Some advanced peasants will finish threshing on 18 June and pay their whole grain debt on 23 June.

In 1952, one peasant produced 2,500 kilograms of wheat per hectare. Another peasant obtained 3,700 kilograms per hectare. In Rashbulle village, a five-man squad harvested 30 dynyms of wheat in 2 days. Large yields were also obtained in Arapje, Spitalle, and Village No 1.

The 1953 yield will be even larger, and peasants are promising to pay their debts ahead of schedule.(14)

Combines Speed Up Wheat and Barley Reaping

Three combines are competing for the best record in reaping wheat at the 8 Nendori State Farm at Sukth. One squad reaped 17.6 hectares of wheat up to 19 June; another squad, 16.1 hectares; while the third squad reaped 21.6 hectares. On one hectare, 3,900 kilograms of wheat were harvested. By 26 June, 193 hectares will be harvested.(10)

Gjocaj Agricultural Collective Criticized

The Gjocaj Agricultural Collective in Peqin Lokalitet started with 35 members and 2,000 dynyms of land. There are now 80 families in the collective. They have 300 sheep and 23 cows. Every year since 1951, the collective's yield has increased. For example, in 1951, it produced 700 kilograms of wheat per hectare; in 1952 a total of 1,150 kilograms; and in 1953, a total of 1,400 kilograms.(12)

But despite these successes, certain defects have become evident of late. For example, according to regulations, each brigade leader must make a daily plan for his brigade, but this is not done. As a result of such lack of planning, cotton and other crops were not planted satisfactorily.

Competition is neglected. The MTS in some sectors do not even observe regulations on procedure. For example, they do not see that the ground is well-worked before cotton or rice is sown.

Brigade members are breaking discipline and not reporting on time for work. It is the duty of collective leaders and mass organizations to enforce discipline and to educate brigade members. But no action has been taken. Responsibility for these defects must be shared by the reeth executive committee, which should aid the collectives. The Ministry of Agriculture, and especially its agricultural collective branch, must be aware of this situation, but no measures to aid or discipline the collective have been taken.(12)

Elbasan Reeth

Harvesting Well Organized

To finish harvesting in good time in the reeth, 176 squads were organized. The Dumra squad, for example, has harvested hundreds of dynyms up to now. Peasants at Rusa have harvested more than 130 dynyms. The peasants have been aided by youth, pioneer, and women's organizations.

During 1953, Elbasan agricultural areas will be mechanized. The Gjocaj Agricultural Collective will use a Soviet combine for the second season.(2)

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Wheat Crop Threshed Early

On 11 June, members of Shingjan Agricultural Collective were the first to pay their grain debts to the state. The collective filled four wagons with the first wheat-threshing yields for the collection center. The collective was able to deliver its quota so quickly, because 1953 was the first year in which it used a Soviet combine. In 3 days, the combine harvested and threshed an amount of grain which would have required the time of 350 peasants, thus making them available for hoeing cotton and enabling them to prepare the ground for a second crop of corn on this whole area.

The early wheat crop was higher than in 1952, amounting, on an average, to 2,500 kilograms per hectare.(14)

Potato Deliveries Begin

The Syra Dylgjeri State Olive Grove Enterprise has begun to gather potatoes and deliver them to the Consumer Cooperative shops.

In 1953, one collective in the enterprise planted triple the 1952 area in potatoes by the checkrow method. The workers gathered more than 20,000 kilograms per hectare.(14)

Cotton Growing Makes Progress

Gani Jolla, head of Mjeke Agricultural Collective, reports the following advantages in using progressive methods in growing cotton. For example, two peasants who hoed their fields only once, carelessly, and who had too few plants per dym, produced only 300 kilograms of cotton from 4 dynms of land. But planters who hoed carefully three to four times, irrigated at the proper times, and employed other advanced methods, raised 1,600 kilograms on 14 dynms of land.

Jolla's collective wants to achieve 8,000 cotton plants per dym. The plants can then be thinned, leaving only the most healthy specimens. The collectives hopes to obtain an average yield of 1,500 kilograms or more by using these methods.

A member of the Mjeke Agricultural Collective claims that he produced so much [quantity unspecified] cotton in 1952 that he received 24,000 leks, beside cloth, table oil, and other commodities.

The highest record of cotton growing in Albania was made by a progressive peasant in Mjeke. He produced 3,500 kilograms per hectare.

Cotton Crops in Mjeke Doubled

One peasant has produced 500 kilograms of cotton on 4 dynms; another has produced 1,600 on 14 dynms in 1952 in Mjeke. In 1953, these peasants expect to double this amount.

At Rapishte, 2,000 kilograms of cotton are expected from 14 dynms and an average of 1,500 kilograms, in other areas.

Many women are aiding in hoeing and weeding the cotton fields in Mjeke. They also take part in the harvesting and threshing.

They wish to produce an average 1,500 kilograms of cotton per hectare.

An Elbasan peasant stated that by employing advanced methods and hoeing five times, he obtained 1,800 kilograms of cotton from 9 dynms of land in 1952. With his profit on the cotton, he acquired more than 50,000 leks, 140 meters of cloth, 50 liters of table oil, 40 kilograms of sugar, and other commodities.

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In 1953, he expects to raise 4,000 kilograms of cotton on 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  dynyms of land and be able to supply the Stalin Textile Mill with more raw material.(1)

Control of Olive-Tree Pests

Measures are being taken in Elbasan Rreth to control olive-tree pests. Brigades are being formed in Godolesh, Bishqem, Krrabe, and Dars to spray the trees with a chemical solution.(12)

Fier RrethFrasheri Cotton Crops Hoed

Bashkimi Agricultural Collective members in Frasheri began hoeing their cotton fields on 13 May. Up to 11 June, 400 dynyms were hoed and thinned. In 1953, the collective planted 1,000 dynyms in cotton, or 125 dynyms more than in 1952. It expects to obtain 800 kilograms per hectare instead of 700 kilograms per hectare obtained in 1952.(9)

Women Aid in Harvesting

In the few days since harvesting began in Fier Rreth, 50 hectares were reaped, largely by women's brigades. Verise Collective members have promised to complete harvesting, threshing, and paying their debts by the end of June.(2)

Planting Methods Improved

Fier agricultural collectives and peasants organized several courses and lectures on methods of increasing the yield of various crops. These talks on check-row corn sowing, cotton pruning, and other advanced methods were attended by 10,800 peasants. An outstanding exponent of these methods followed his talks by concrete examples in the fields.

The corn-sowing method will be applied in 1953 to an area 50 percent larger than in 1952.(14)

Young People's Brigades Help Harvest Program

The youth of Fier Rreth has organized 154 brigades totaling 1,560 members to aid in the grain harvesting, threshing, and collection. The pioneers have organized 25 brigades totaling 625 members to gather corn.

The young people have already harvested 25 hectares of wheat.(10)

Korce RrethSugar-Beet, Potato, and Bean Yields Increase

In Korce Rreth, 31 agricultural collectives have finished spring sowing of industrial crops. They planted 506 more hectares in sugar beets, 369 more in corn, 50 percent more acreage in potatoes, and 30 percent more acreage in beans in 1953 than in 1952. They also planted 114 more hectares in Georgian corn than in 1952.(2)

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Forestry Plan Being Fulfilled

The people of Korce Rreth are intent on fulfilling the Five-Year Plan for forestry in 3 years and 3 months. By June, the yearly plan for digging holes for trees was fulfilled 93.6 percent. With the completion of the 1953 plan, the Five-Year Plan will be fulfilled. The annual plan for forest care has been fulfilled 107 percent.

The chief areas where new trees will be planted are Kloce, Qarr, Dumbrave, and the hills of Korce and Kamenice.(12)

Women Work Hard in Vincan Collective

The Vincan Agricultural Collective, located in the hills west of the city of Korce, is divided into three brigades. Half of brigades I and III are women. Brigade II has 32 members, including 14 women. They do the same work as men. Nowadays, one sees in the fields old men and women, as well as school children and children not old enough for school.

In Vincan, women take part in productive work, study advanced agricultural methods, and become outstanding agriculturalists. They work hard in spring planting, during threshing seasons and in raising sugar beets. One brigade promised to produce 50,000 kilograms of beets per hectare, while the cooperative promised an increase of 4,000 kilograms over the planned crop.

Some members have promised to produce 4,000 kilograms of potatoes per hectare and 8,000 kilograms of Georgian wheat per hectare. In the sugar-beet fields, only five or six of the healthiest plants are allowed per meter. The ground is carefully weeded. After the beets are thinned, the ground is raked four times. The third and fourth rakings are done by a cultivator when the plants are sufficiently grown. Ordinary chemical as well as granular [chemical] fertilizer is applied.(4)

Kruje Rreth

Fush-Kruje MTS Begins Threshing

The Fush-Kruje MTS is one of the best in the country. It fulfilled the 1952 threshing plan 119 percent many days ahead of schedule, without wasting grain.

After analyzing its 1952 successes and shortcomings, the MTS collectives began the 1953 season with a thorough overhaul of reapers and threshers and with a reserve of spare parts and fuel. On 1 June, when the first collection commission arrived, it found the MTS ready for a great harvesting and threshing campaign.

In 1953, the MTS plans to do 15 percent more threshing than in 1952. Individual members promise to double both their daily quota and the planned total. One Stakhanovite, who operates a Soviet MK-110 thresher, expects to reach a record daily quota of 18,000 kilograms. According to the threshers' itinerary, approved by the executive committee, three of them left on 5 June for the Gurz area where they will be put to work on 8 June. The Gurz peasants have promised the first threshing yields to the state.(4)

Kukes Rreth

Collection Dates to be Met

The active members of the Kukes Rreth Committee met recently to discuss the harvest. It was reported to the meeting that collections had been completely fulfilled, beans excepted. Bean collection reached only 87 percent. The meeting resolved that cereal collection must be completed by 9 August and late crop collection, by 18 December 1953.(2)

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Barley Harvest in Progress

Up to 22 June 1953, Mamez village harvested 7 dynyms of barley. The people's council and mass organizations promise to deliver their collection quotas ahead of schedule.(6)

Agricultural Methods Improved

The peasants of Kukes Rreth have already exceeded the planned spring planting 3 percent and are continuing to exceed the plan.

Conditions have been improved by means of 24 lectures attended by 42 peasants. Twelve lectures attended by 405 peasants, were also given on various phases of tending industrial and spring crops.(14)

Kucove Rreth

Harvesters and Threshers Speed Up Work

The Stalin Town Partizani Agricultural Enterprise has promised to finish harvesting and threshing on 30 June. One member, with a Soviet harvester, fulfilled his norm 102-105 percent. In a very few days, 50 percent of the wheat area was harvested.

The directors have appointed a special 18-man squad to operate and service the machines. The squad threshed 1,500 kilograms of wheat in 2 hours. It has also organized night work.

Pioneers glean the wheat which falls during threshing.(6)

Lesh Rreth

First Threshing Being Delivered

Since 21 June, wagon trains loaded with wheat have been traveling on the main roads to the Leshnje collection center. Within a few days, the center will have 100,000 kilograms of wheat as the "first threshing for the state."

On 29 June, the peasants of Ishull i Leshes, Ishull i Shengjinit, Manati, and Spiten began paying their debts.(6)

Recently, trucks from Lesh villages unloaded 100,000 kilograms of wheat at the Lesh (city) collection center. This was the first threshing yield belonging to the state.(5)

Lushnje Rreth

Threshing Begins in Qerre i Ri

On 15 June, the peasants of Qerre i Ri finished harvesting and began threshing to pay their debts to the state. When these tasks are completed, they will plant 40 dynyms of stubble fields.

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The best workers are obtaining an average 2,000-2,500 kilograms of wheat per hectare. Women and pioneers aid in binding the sheaves to prevent loss.(5)

Harvesting Finished in Qerre i Ri and Qerre i Vjeter

Qerre i Ri and Qerre i Vjeter have finished harvesting. Qerre i Ri harvested 368 dynyms of wheat and Qerre i Vjeter, 220 dynyms.(10)

Ciflik Agricultural Collective Speeds Up Work

Men and women in the Ciflik Agricultural Collective are working at top speed. Three brigades are engaged in harvesting. Part of the fourth brigade is hoeing the cotton and tobacco fields.

The collective organized the work well, securing reaping and threshing machines and tools in advance and disinfecting the threshing platforms. It also organized squads of pioneers to glean the stalks and bind the sheaves for threshing.

In 1953 yield averages 2,000 kilograms per hectare. On fields where the crisscross sowing method was used, the collective obtained more than 2,500 kilograms per hectare.(2)

Peshkopi Rreth

Plans Fulfilled Early

By 31 May Peshkopi Rreth had fulfilled its spring planting 100.8 percent and was continuing to work. In early June, it fulfilled the plan for cereals 101.52 percent; for fodder grains, 105.24 percent; and for vegetables, 100.65 percent.(10)

Rreshen Rreth

Mirdite Crop Program

By 15 June, the Mirdite peasants had fulfilled the spring planting plan 100 percent in corn, 101 percent in beans and corn [sic], and 130 percent in vegetables. Planting by the checkrow system was applied to a large area.(10)

The mountaineers of Mirdite have begun paying their debts in cereals. On 24 June, the peasants of Rasfik and Perr-Shkopiti, both in Rubik Lokalitet, organized wagon trains to carry their grain to the collection center. The Rasfik peasants paid 85 percent of their debts.(7)

A meeting of the Mirdite Democratic Front Council was held recently in Rreshen. A report on 1952 activities stated that cereals and late crops had been harvested ahead of schedule, care had been taken to prevent waste in harvesting and collecting, and the state's quota had been delivered.

The front and women's organizations had assisted the harvesting and threshing program by holding special meetings in every village.(1)

Sarande Rreth

Konispol Cotton Yield

Some 715 dynyms of cotton were planted in Konispol by advanced methods. By 25 May, 106 dynyms had been planted.

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In 1952, Konispol peasants obtained 100 kilograms of cotton per dynym. In 1953, they expect an average of 120 kilograms per dynym.(2)

#### Agricultural Collective Harvest Early

The Saranda People's Council reports that the 1952 harvesting, threshing, and collection were finished 25 days ahead of schedule. In 1953, the Lefter Talo agricultural collective was the first to start harvesting the rreth. The 21 Dhjetor Collective disinfected its threshing platforms in good time and began harvesting early. Its two brigades harvested 40 dynyms of wheat in a day. Many members exceeded their norms 20 percent.(2)

#### Tobacco and Cotton Hoed

In 1953, the peasants of Kullurice village are taking care of 100 dynyms of cotton and 18 dynyms of tobacco. They hoed 18 dynyms of cotton recently. One man set a good example by hoeing 3 dynyms himself. The peasants have been working collectively on tobacco and have hoed 12 dynyms of this crop.(14)

#### Pandelejmon Agricultural Collective Sows Corn

The Pandelejmon Agricultural Collective worked the whole area to be sown in Georgian corn three times with a tractor and enriched it with a large amount of chemical fertilizer. Application of checkrow planting is expected to increase the yield from the previous 1,500 kilograms to 2,200 kilograms per hectare. Some workers have increased their norms 30-40 percent.(9)

#### MIS Threshers Used in Vriion

The Vriion Agricultural Collective has harvested 92 percent of the area sown in cereals. Cucu and Gjashte villages worked and planted 160 dynyms in corn. They used MIS threshers this season.(10)

#### Saranda Rreth Planting Lags

Corn planting is lagging in Saranda Rreth, mainly because of poor organization and nonemployment of the time during rains. The rreth executive committee, especially the agricultural section, did not follow government and party directives for mobilizing the peasantry for the spring planting. Corn sowing was particularly poor in the Vurku area. The executive committee visited the area frequently but gave too little aid for good results.

Other lokalitets have also been very backward; for example, Lukove Lokalitet fulfilled only 3 percent of the corn plan. This percentage shows how little interest the people's council and the executive committee took in the situation.(3)

#### Shkoder Rreth

#### Wheat Crop Ready for Threshing

For the 1953 harvest, Shkoder Lokalitet formed 128 squads, composed largely of women. In Kuc village, eight squads harvested 30 dynyms in 3 days. By 8 June, they had harvested 300 dynyms. After letting the wheat dry for 2 days, they divided it into two piles for threshing. Thus, the yield of the first threshing will soon be ready to pay the village debt to the state.(14)

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Grain Yield Increased

Kuc village, near the Tefe hills, finished harvesting grain on 11 June. On 18 June, the MTS threshers arrived and threshed 10,000 kilograms in one day. The peasants will be able to pay their debts to the state easily.

The average previous yield was 2,000 kilograms of wheat per hectare. In 1953, it reached 2,500-3,000 kilograms.(7)

Plan Fulfillment Promised

Boka village, Mesi Lokalitet, has promised to fulfill the harvesting plan and pay its debts to the state 100 percent by 28 June.(10)

Tobacco Yield to Be Increased

Tobacco growers in Shkodra Rrath have 99 cultivators at their disposal. One raking was done on 15 June, and the second raking is being finished on 26 percent of the planted area.

Among those who did outstanding work were the peasants of Koplik, Mesi, and Gramire. Some peasants promise to produce 1,100 kilograms of tobacco per hectare, instead of the 1,000 kilograms produced in 1952.

Measures are being taken against disease. Every morning, 15 kilograms of manure mixed with water is sprayed on the leaves.(10)

Tropoja RrathBajram Curri Town to Complete Harvest Program Early

A meeting of the economic committee of Bajram Curri Town was held recently to discuss the grain-harvesting, threshing, and collection program. It was decided to organize the work so as to finish 15 days ahead of schedule.

The committee decided to ask Fike, Rrezen, and Skrapar districts to compete with Bajram Curri Town.(6)

Advanced Methods Used in Kolgëraj

The Kolgëraj peasants were the first in Tropoja Rrath to form a collective. From 16 families, the collective has grown to 25.

Three brigades have been formed, composed largely of women, who are hoeing corn, potatoes, and other vegetables to procure a high yield.(10)

Vlorë RrathShortcomings Noted in Vlorë Harvest

The Vlorë People's Council met recently to discuss the 1953 harvesting, threshing, and collecting program.

The executive committee was criticized for lack of organization, which led to many deficiencies in the program. The MTS were criticized both for nonfulfillment of their contracts and for the poor condition of their machinery.

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Another reason given for nonfulfillment of the plan was that local authorities did not set the peasants good examples. They did not organize to prevent waste in harvesting and threshing.

The meeting took concrete measures to remedy these defects and establish closer relations between the executive committee and the MTS, to combat bureaucracy and opportunism, and to give a good example to the masses.(2)

Wheat Prospects Good in Novosele

The Novosele Agricultural Collective began harvesting its "Kuturli" wheat on 30 May and harvested 300 dynyms by 9 June. It expects to finish 650 dynyms by 12 June.

The collective believes it will obtain 1,300 kilograms per hectare, instead of the 1,100 planned.(14)

Agricultural Collective Expects Good Corn Crop

The Peshkep Agricultural Collective has planted 210 dynyms in corn. The hoeing will be finished by 22 June, and artificial pollination will begin.

The planned yield of corn was 1,200 kilograms per dynym, but this collective expects to obtain 1,500 kilograms.(12)

## IV. ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Great Profits in Animal Husbandry

The Cakran Agricultural Collective, Lushinge Rreth, formed an animal husbandry section in 1948. Through its agricultural credits, the section bought 300 sheep and 19 cattle (cows, bulls, and mules).

In 1951, the animal husbandry section was divided into a farm for 500 sheep and a farm for 25 cattle. Other sections were formed for poultry, pigs, and bees. In 1953, the farms and the sections have a fund of about one million leks. They have 800 sheep, 450 large and small goats, 45 cows, about 100 pigs, and 80 beehives. Seventy of these hives are modern ones.

Dano Pecori, deputy of the people's council and head of the collective, reports that in 1952, the collective made 2,250,000 leks and had on hand 1,400 kilograms of pork to satisfy its meat quota. It supplied its members with ample meat and dairy products and received a large amount of industrial goods through trade with consumer cooperatives.

As the Cakran collective did not have enough pasturage for all its cattle it planted about 200 dynyms in alfalfa and 100 dynyms in clover in 1952. It is building straw sheds with straw litters for use of sheep and goats in winter, and it is also building stables for cattle.

At lambing time, special members are assigned to tend the lambs.

In 1952, shearing twice a year produced an average of 600 grams more wool than the previous method of shearing once a year. The first shearing produced 700 kilograms of wool from 570 sheep.

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Milking the ewes three times a day increases the quantity of milk 15-20 percent. The collective expects to produce 3,000 kilograms of milk over the planned amount.

It has recently acquired 30 young rams with short curly wool to improve the breed of its own sheep and to aid other collectives and individuals in their sheep breeding. (15)

Modern Animal Husbandry Methods Used in Sarande

Fitore Agricultural Collective occupies one of the best sites in Konispol Lokalitet. It is one of the first agricultural collectives established in Sarande Rreth. It started without any cattle but obtained state credit to buy sheep. By 1953, the collective possessed 314 sheep, 164 cows, 17 horses and mares, 10 pigs, and 51 beehives.

In 1952, the collective introduced the method of shearing sheep twice yearly. At first, some members opposed this method, believing that the sheep would be sick and go dry. Now, however, this method is widely accepted, with excellent results. A sheep which produced 1.5 kilograms of wool previously now gives 2.4 kilograms. Consequently, the collective obtained 200 kilograms more than the planned amount.

Fitore's example has been followed by other collectives, such as the Letter Talos and Novorice collectives, and by progressive peasants, one of whom increased wool production 180 percent.

In addition, the collective introduced the method of milking three times a day. Before application of this method, one sheep gave 40 kilograms of milk a month. Now, one sheep gives 56 kilograms a month. This method is being applied also to cows. (16)

Animal Husbandry Successful in Sarande Rreth

Sheep Farm No 3, which furnishes winter quarters for sheep in the Delvine area of Sarande Rreth, fulfilled its 4-month plan for milk 123 percent. Its sheep were kept free from disease.

When it was time to bring the sheep in from summer pastures, the shepherds built 11 barns, and each brigade cleared an area which would hold 500 sheep. They also sowed 600 dynyms of grass. The pasture was divided among small flocks, and the pens were often moved to dry spots.

The shepherds took special care to collect fodder reserves. They sowed 120 hectares with clover, 15 hectares with corn, and they secured 30,000 kilograms of fodder. They also cleared 200 hectares of meadow of briars to prevent loss of wool.

The shepherds apply four methods: mating in pens, lambing in pens, milking three times daily, and shearing twice a year. Mating in pens permits keeping records so that the date of lambing is known. Lambs born in pens develop better, nurse regularly, and fatten earlier. The three daily milkings give 700 grams of milk per sheep, 200 grams more than the previous method. In shearing, an electrically operated Soviet clipper is used. It can shear 1,140 sheep in 24 hours. The first shearing produces about 900 <sup>grams</sup> ~~grams~~ <sup>grams</sup> of wool per sheep, 1,179 grams per ram, 910 grams per ewe lamb, 1,057 grams per ewe.

One of the best workers on the farm fulfilled the lambing quota 100 percent and the 4-month quota, 130 percent; he also obtained an average of 1,214 grams of wool per sheep. Another outstanding shepherd had no losses among the 840 lambs in his fold. One brigade fulfilled the plan 100 percent and had 20 more lambs than the planned number.

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Preparations are under way for the journey to summer pasturage. The flocks will not travel more than 3 hours a day, so milking can be done regularly, and loss or damage to the flocks can more easily be prevented.(9)

Sheep Raising in Berat Criticized

The clearing and improvement of pasturage is one of the duties entrusted to the local authorities and the peasants by the party. According to party directives, the Berat Executive Committee sent plans to every lokalitet by 20 March. Nothing further was done. The committee has made no inspections, nor has it demanded any accounting from lokalitet or village councils.

The veterinarians and agricultural specialists do not attempt to control work according to the plan. The chief veterinary is careless and indifferent. He does not visit the lokalitets to see that pastures are cleared.

Berat Rreth has about 1,000 hectares of pasturage. To put it in good order demands organized work in clearing away briars, poisonous weeds, and stones. This can be achieved only if the rreth executive committee, the lokalitet committees, veterinarians, and agricultural specialists put an end to their respective shortcomings.(10)

Poultry Raising Succeeds in Berat Rreth

The Dukat Agricultural Enterprise has raised 1,400 geese and expects to have 3,000 by the end of 1953. It has already built six coops for them and intends to build ten more. The enterprise is specializing in poultry breeding.(10)

Fodder Collection Urged

Agricultural workers throughout the country are beginning to mow hay. In accordance with government directives, great attention is paid to clearing meadows and preparing for three sowings of alfalfa and clover. Workers are ordered to mow grasses for fodder in their own gardens.

Many agricultural enterprises have completed the first haying. Silos will be used on a large scale. Collection of straw, oak leaves, sugar-beet leaves, and weeds to provide winter fodder will be better organized than in 1952.(14)

Maliq Muco State Farm Collects Fodder

The Maliq Muco State Farm in Xhafzotaj, Durres Rreth, will preserve more fodder in silos in 1953 than in 1952. The success of this operation will greatly increase the supply of winter fodder.(3)

## V. MISCELLANEOUS

Research Institute of Agricultural Sciences Reports Progress

The Research Institute of Agricultural Sciences held a meeting on 4 June. It was attended by Hysni Kapo, Vice-Premier and Minister of Agriculture; Prof. Kristi Daskalov, head of the Bulgarian Culture and Arts Delegation and director of the Agrobiological Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; specialists from the Albanian Ministry of Agriculture; and members of the Institute of Sciences and higher agricultural institutions.

Adem Delin, engineer, agronomist, and director of the Research Institute of Agricultural Sciences, gave the annual report of the institute, including the following points.

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The institute made thorough studies of many problems in agricultural science. For example, it established the best planting dates and other necessary conditions to obtain the highest yields of cotton, wheat, sugar beets, tobacco, and other industrial crops.

Studies were made on the selection of types of wheat, corn, oats, cotton, and sugar beets and on the creation of new types of wheat. Good work was in progress on popularizing advanced methods of planting potatoes, pruning cotton, and artificial pollination of corn and alfalfa.

To improve citrus fruits, the institute studied the varieties of fruit trees on the south coast to determine the best types of lemons, oranges, and tangerines in productivity, taste, and chemical composition.

Specialists of the institute, with the cooperation of specialists of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Institute of Sciences, studied means of controlling pests and diseases of industrial crops, apple and olive trees, and corn. (15)

#### Removal of Harmful Weeds Ordered

A resolution of the Fourth Plenum of the Party's Central Committee requires the taking of rigorous measures to control harmful weeds, especially couch grass and poisonous rushes, as one of the chief methods of increasing crop yields.

Under favorable climatic conditions two, three, and four plantings of cotton can be made by applying state instructions. It is well known that an early threshing creates the best conditions for spring sowing and the growth of the plants. But the danger of harmful weeds arouses little interest in many rreths, in particular in Lushnje, Fier, and Korca rreths. Canals and roads must also be cleared of weeds, some of which can be utilized as fodder.

All these operations can best be performed by collective work. Political work must be done in villages to make the peasants understand the necessity of such measures. People's councils, mass organizations, and women's organizations must aid by personal example and by criticism against kulaks, who seek to persuade the peasants that such efforts are unnecessary. (16)

#### Winter Food Supply Inefficient

The supply of winter food is a serious problem for the government. In some rreths like Tirana and Shkoder, there is a large assortment of fats, dairy produce, winter vegetables, fruits, meats, and fish. But in other rreths, the situation is far from satisfactory. Even the Ministry of Commerce, which started too late to consider the problem, down to the consumer cooperatives in villages, little effort has been made to procure provisions in summer and preserve or store them for winter. Many consumer cooperatives have fulfilled neither the collection plan nor the plan for preserving and storing agricultural and animal products. For example, Vlone Rreth did not begin to secure winter stocks until various products were almost exhausted. In Durrës Rreth, even the simplest articles like onions, are lacking. In this rich agricultural and cattle-breeding area, nothing was done to collect and store the produce.

Rreth executive committees and cooperative and state trade organizations must see that situations like that in 1952, when attention was focused on just one article, never occur again. At that time, thousands of apples were dried at great cost and remained unsold. To secure a diversified winter diet, potatoes, eggplant, and other vegetables as well as dairy produce, fish, meats, and fats must be collected in season and preserved. Local authorities, cooperative and state trade organizations, large enterprises, production centers, individual holdings, and every family in cities and villages must do their part in raising, collecting, and preserving winter supplies for the people. (11)

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CONFIDENTIALKolonje Control Brigade Aids Local Executive Committee

In May 1953, the Kolonje Rreth Executive Committee organized a control brigade to aid the Leshkovik Lokalitet Executive Committee. The brigade appointed members to act as chiefs of sections for organization, trade, agriculture, forestry, health, and finance and to prepare analytical plans for their sections. Spiro Dume, head of the Leshkovik Lokalitet, informed the control sections of the shortcomings of the Leshkovik Lokalitet Executive Committee.

Within a week, the control brigade put in force some excellent measures. Consultations held in the city of Leshkovik by the trade section brought out many shortcomings previously unknown to the Leshkovik Lokalitet Executive Committee. For example, bakeries had been giving privileges to some and not to others. Barter markets had goods in stock which were not put on sale at any time during the year by the rreth cooperative union. The local authorities and the Procurement-Sales Union were aware of these conditions, but did nothing to remedy them.

The brigade realized that these shortcomings were, in part, caused by lack of education and organized courses to teach local authorities their duties. This movement is spreading to other lokalitets.(4)

Embezzlement in Kolonje

Recently, suit was brought against a group of embezzlers of state and collective property. The group members, Qerim Verteniku, Sotir Mihali, Laver Bato, and Caci Prifti, were traders and middlemen who speculated and lived at the expense of the people. In 1949, they started in a systematic manner to sabotage the people's economy. They acted in two groups, one in the collection agency for animal products and one in the procurement-sales cooperative section. They stole food, industrial, agricultural, and animal products amounting to a considerable sum.

Qerim Verteniku, the ringleader, taking advantage of his position in a collection center, induced Bekdash Xhamaqi, Laver Bato, Zeni Mesareja, and others to join him. With their help, he falsified receipts for meat deliveries by peasants, appropriated quantities of meat, and divided it among the group.

The court had proof of these thefts, including the forged receipts. On the witness stand, Verteniku was forced to admit his guilt and his enlistment of others in his acts.

Sotir Mihali was a shopkeeper and later, director of a procurement-sales cooperative. With Caci Prifti, Qerim Verteniku, Sero Rrushi, Vangjel Stajo, and others, he appropriated various articles of food and clothing in storage or workrooms and shared them with his group.

The trial brought out likewise the blindness of the Kolonje Rreth administration, which permitted development of this situation. Verteniku had been a former collaborator, a sergeant of the Carabinieri, and an enemy of the people. He obtained an important post in a collective agency.

Attyl Sulia, a responsible member of a collective agency, was engaged in embezzlement in his sector. But because the rreth authorities did not investigate personnel, he was promoted to the post of director of the local Erseke Rreth building enterprise, where he was able to form his own band of criminals.

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It is hoped that the well-earned punishment of these embezzlers will be a lesson to the local authorities, to Raqi Ruco, director of the Agricultural Products Collecting Enterprise, and to Koco Lekbello, director of the Procurement-Sales Cooperative Union.(17)

SOURCES

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